

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Sergeant John Ray Massey, born on May 15, 1980, in Searcy, Arkansas, was a dedicated and courageous soldier, who was deeply loved by his family and many friends, died July 15, 2007, while serving his country on combat duty in Iraq; and

WHEREAS: John was the cherished husband of Mandy Massey of Searcy; a loving father to Monica, Joseph, and Emily; beloved son of Deborah Massey of Portland, Oregon, and Ray Massey of Searcy; the devoted brother of Christy Homsley of Higginson; grandson; and son-in-law; as well as a cherished member of his battalion and a loyal friend to scores of people from across the world; and

WHEREAS: As a Sergeant, Massey sacrificed his life during combat operations near Balad, as a member of battery C, 2nd Battalion, 142nd Fires Brigade, out of Ozark, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: All Arkansans and United States citizens owe John a lasting debt of gratitude for his bravery and his heroism and should pay tribute to his faithful service; and

WHEREAS: Citizens of this State and Nation extend deepest sympathy to the family and loved ones of Sergeant John Ray Massey;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE BEEBE, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, in tribute to the memory of John Ray Massey and as an expression of public sorrow, do hereby direct that the state flag of Arkansas be flown at half-staff on Monday, July 23, 2007.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this _____ day of July, in the year of our Lord 2007.

MIKE BEEBE, GOVERNOR

CHARLIE DANIELS, SECRETARY OF STATE